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<u>PATENT</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Customer Number: 20277

Katsumi OKAMURA, et al.

Confirmation Number: 6234

Application No.: 10/562,485

Group Art Unit: 1794

Allowed: January 27, 2009

Filed: December 27, 2005

Examiner: TURNER, ARCHENE A

For: SURFACE-COATED HIGH HARDNESS MATERIAL FOR TOOL

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.312

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to a Notice of Allowance mailed January 27, 2009, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.